

Borough of Rocky Hill

Council Minutes

July 19, 2004

A regular meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Nolan at 7:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country and a moment of silent meditation. It was announced that this meeting has been advertised in the Somerset Messenger Gazette issue of December 6, 2003 in accordance with “The Open Public Meetings Act”.

Roll Call:

Present

- Mr. Richard Batchelder
- Mr. Martin Engelbrecht
- Ms. Peggy Harris
- Mr. George Morren
- Mr. Edward Zimmerman

Absent

- Ms. Connie Hallman

Minutes

The minutes of the June 7, 2004 Meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Morren, second by Mr. Zimmerman. On a roll call vote Mr. Batchelder, Ms. Harris, Mr. Morren, and Mr. Zimmerman vote aye. Mr. Engelbrecht abstained.

The minutes of the regular meeting of Rocky Hill Borough Council held on June 21, 2004 were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Morren, second by Engelbrecht. On a roll call vote Mr. Engelbrecht, Mr. Morren, and Mr. Zimmerman voted aye. Ms. Harris and Mr. Batchelder abstained.

The Executive Session Minutes of June 21, 2004 were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Morren, second by Mr. Engelbrecht. On a roll call vote Mr. Engelbrecht, Mr. Morren, and Mr. Zimmerman voted aye. Ms. Harris and Mr. Batchelder abstained.

Public Comment

Nothing at this time.

Engineer's Report

Copy on file with the Clerk.

Mr. Tanner said after discussing the striping of Montgomery and Princeton Avenues it was decided by Borough Council to not complete the side stripes along Princeton Avenue because of some liability issues.

The paving of Crescent and Park Avenues is scheduled for mid August 2004. The Soccer field drainage project will begin the week of July 26, 2004.

Mr. Tanner reported the County has prepared a boiler plate form for a storm water management plan and it should save the Borough some money.

The Rt. 518 intersections should be painted this summer and Mr. Tanner was asked by Council to request the County move to correct the noise from the grid intersections.

No bids were received for the traffic calming project along Princeton and Montgomery Avenues and the project will be re-advertised in August.

The dialogue with the Federal EPA is still going on concerning the Rocky Hill Super Fund Site and it seems there can not be agreement between the parties concerning protection of the Rocky Hill Well Site Water Level.

Mr. Morren moved, second by Ms. Harris a RESOLUTION authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit a grant for sidewalks from Hickory Ct. south to the Borough border. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Morren moved, second by Ms. Harris a RESOLUTION authorizing VanCleaf Engineering to prepare bid specs for work at Somerset County Park. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Tanner was instructed to prepare bid spec for five leaf pick ups this fall dates to be determined by Council after the contract is awarded.

Mr. Querec asked if speed humps could be installed on the Borough portion of Crescent Ave. and was told the street is too short for speed humps.

Mr. Robotti asked again to have the grids removed along Rt. 518 and said the grass area in front of his home is all weeds. The engineer will check with the County about reseeding the area.

State Police Report

SGT. Morenski reported every thing in the Borough seems to be quiet and there was one DWI arrest in early July.

There will be a relay race through Rocky Hill in August and Mr. Morren will inform the group that Crescent Ave may be closed in August.

SGT. Morenski asked that he be copied on any correspondence sent to the Hamilton Station.

Mayor Nolan Introduced Mr. Alan Querec, President of the Rocky Hill First Aid Squad, who gave an update on the future purchase of a new ambulance and said specs will be ready for attorney review soon and should be ready for Council review at their August meeting. This Ambulance will replace a 1975 Ambulance.

Emergency Resolution

Mr. Batchelder moved, second by Ms. Harris an Emergency Resolution authorizing an additional \$23,000.00 for planning expenses not anticipated this year. On a roll call vote all present aye. See appendix #1 for the Resolution.

Bill List

Mr. Batchelder presented the following RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS THE TREASURER HAS CERTIFIED THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY SAID VOUCHERS: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. Second by Mr. Morren. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #2 for the Bill List.

Committee reports

Administration & Records: No report.

Buildings & Grounds: Mr. Zimmerman reported that the violations room is ready and the electric work for that Room should be complete this week. A new light is on the exterior of Borough Hall and will be on from 7:00PM until 9:30PM. The light also has a two hour by pass switch that can be activated at any time. Mr. Zimmerman will discuss with Borough Council both a one year and five year plan for Borough Hall at the August 16, 2004 meeting.

Finance & Insurance: Mr. Batchelder said he had a meeting with the Planning Board and will discuss it with Council at the next meeting.

Public Safety/ Emergency Services: Mr. Morren said he had received two Constable Reports. Three parking summons were issued during June and several folks were issued warnings to clean up after their dogs.

Streets & Roads: Ms Harris stated bush a limbs are still a problem with both walking along the sidewalks in Rocky Hill and blocking several traffic signs. Mr. Morren will speak to the Constables to check out.

Water, Sewer, & Environmental Protection: Mr. Engelbrecht reported that 2,820,000 gallons of water was pumped during June 2004 and all tests are OK. Mr. Kessler has not heard from Montgomery Twp. Sewer Dept. concerning cleaning certain sewer mains in Rocky Hill. Mr. Engelbrecht reported that stripper motor #2 at the well site is being rebuilt and will be installed soon.

Council representative to Planning Board: Ms. Harris reported that Ms Deborah Land, 49 Crescent Ave, received a variance approval for a two story addition of 1200 sq ft. but must meet with a Planning Board Sub Committee and return for preservation approval in August.

Zoning Official: No report.

Special Business

Mayor Nolan opened the Public Hearing on ORDINANCE 12-04 Appropriating \$60,000.00 to fund traffic calming along Princeton & Montgomery Avenues. There was no public comment and the Mayor closed the Public Hearing. Ms. Harris moved, second by Mr. Morren to adopt ORDINANCE 12-04 in final form. On a roll cal vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Batchelder moved, second by Mr. Morren a RESOLUTION extending a 35 day grace period form the day the new tax bills are mailed. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #3 for the Resolution.

Communications

They were discussed and ordered filed.

Unfinished Business

The meeting with Mr. Schafer and his staff has been cancelled until the first week in August.

New Business

Mayor Nolan appointed Dr. Beverly Poelstra to the Rocky Hill Bd. of Health to replace Dr. Rocco Ciocca who moved from the Borough.

Mr. Zimmerman moved, second by Mr. Engelbrecht to approve the appointment of Dr. Beverly Poelstra to the Rocky Hill Bd. of Health. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Public Comment

Ms Lamb stated several trees along Merritt and Montgomery Avenues are need of trimming.

Mr. Robotti stated the Flag Pole at Panicaró Park needs to be painted or replaced and a light should be installed to light the Flag.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM with a motion by Mr. Batchelder, second by Mr. Morren. On a voice vote all present voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond E. Whitlock Jr.
Borough Clerk